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1 February 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION

SUBJECT : Implementation of the Overseas Communications Plan

REFERENCE: Overseas Communications Plan, dated 25 April 1951

1. The Overseas Communications Plan for the Central Intelligence Agency was approved by the Director on 25 April 1950. One portion of this plan calls for implementation of a series of communications base stations in support of a communications system serving the world-wide commitments of the Agency.

2. The international situation poses requirements for an accelerated and fully integrated implementation of this plan. Because of this, it is believed essential that a policy be established whereby procurement of certain electronic equipment and associated materials can be effected on an expedited and selective basis.

3. Engineering planning for major communications base station installations requires that exact physical and electrical characteristics of equipment and materials be known in advance. Selection of equipment, an essential in organized planning, provides for interchangeability of parts and spares common to all Agency stations throughout the world. Further, equipment selection is a factor favorable to reduced procurement, warehousing, shipping and re-supply problems. A corollary is a reduced technical personnel training and assignment problem resulting from the increase in items of equipment common to all stations.

4. In view of the urgent need for establishment and completion of these communications facilities, it is requested that your office make a determination that negotiated procurement may be used to obtain the equipment described in Attachment I. Administrative Instruction No. 40-22, Section 3, b, (1) and (7), covering vouchered funds for supplies and services for which it is impracticable to secure competition, and which are determined to be necessary in the public interest during the period of a national emergency declared by the President or by the Congress, is believed to be applicable.

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5. Legal analysis of this proposal to limit procurement of certain equipment for implementation of the Overseas Communications Plan to makes and models listed in Attachment I indicates that, since it is desirable to do this from a technical and a policy point of view, it appears that an adequate legal basis for such action exists.

6. Attachment II, prepared by the Office of the General Counsel, is a draft covering authorization for negotiated procurement of equipment for implementation of the Overseas Communications Plan subject to approval by the Deputy Director for Administration.

/s/

Assistant Director
Special Operations

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Attachments 2

Concurrence:

/s/
Chief, Communications Division

/s/
Chief of Procurement

cc: ADSO
Chief of Procurement
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